

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170742
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 CPR-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 INR-07 INRE-00 DHA-02
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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:GACHESTER:DHT
APPROVED BY EUR/CE:WWOESSNER
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O R 212137Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170742

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, UK, UR, US, FR

SUBJECT: RUDOLF HESS: APPEAL BY FRG PRESIDENT SCHEEL

1. FRG EMBASSY HAS DELIVERED TO DEPT LETTER DATED JULY 1
ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM FRG PRESIDENT
SCHEEL, APPEALING FOR RELEASE OF RUDOLF HESS. TEXT OF
ACCOMPANYING ENGLISH TRANSLATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

IN COUNTLESS PETITIONS FROM MY FELLOW COUNTRYMEN,
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INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED UNDER
NATIONAL SOCIALISM, I AM AGAIN AND AGAIN BEING REQUESTED
TO SEEK CLEMENCY FOR RUDOLF HESS. MY PREDECESSOR,
GUSTAV HEINEMANN, TOO, APPEALED FOR HESS'S RELEASE IN 1974.

THAT WAS THREE YEARS AGO. RULDOLF HESS IS NOW 83 YEARS
OLD AND HAS BEEN IN PRISON FOR 35 YEARS. RECENTLY HE

TRIED TO TAKE HIS OWN LIFE OUT OF DESPERATION.
REGARDLESS OF HIS STATE OF HEALTH, BY ALL HUMAN STANDARDS
HE HAS NOT MUCH LONGER TO LIVE.

I THEREFORE APPROACH YOU WITH THE REQUEST THAT RUDOLF
HESS BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO HIS FAMILY FOR THE LITTLE
TIME HE STILL HAS TO LIVE. AN ACT OF CLEMENCY ON PURELY
HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS CAN HAVE BUT A FAVOURABLE EFFECT
ON RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES.

THE GRANTING OF A PARDON TO RUDOLF HESS WILL NOT CAUSE
THE UNTOLD HARM WHICH NATIONAL SOCIALISM HAS DONE TO
EUROPE AND THE WORLD AND FOR WHICH HE HAS BEEN PARTLY
RESPONSIBLE TO BE FORGOTTEN.

WITH THE EXPRESSION OF MY HIGH ESTEEM,

(SIGNED) WALTER SCHEEL.

END TEXT.

2. FRG EMBASSY HAS INFORMED US THAT IDENTICAL LETTERS
WERE ADDRESSED TO BRITISH, FRENCH AND SOVIET GOVERNMENTS.
REQUEST THAT US REP COORDINATE ELEMENTS OF REPLY WITH
BRITISH AND FRENCH REPS AND RECOMMEND TEXT FOR REPLY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE170742
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GACHESTER:DHT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770260-0264
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770732/aaaabbjx.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bdcfea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1786707
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: RUDOLF HESS: APPEAL BY FRG PRESIDENT SCHEEL
TAGS: PFOR, PPDC, WB, UK, UR, US, FR, (CARTER, JIMMY), (SCHEEL, WALTER), (HESS, RUDOLPH)
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Type: TE
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